

Logging operation down off Cascade Mountain

75 YEARS AGO: MAY 1916

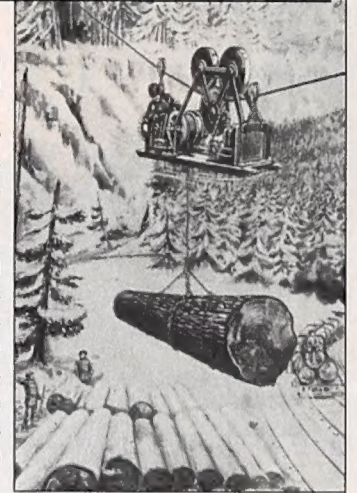


Life In Wartime

The winds of war drifted from the battlefields to civilian life—quite literally—as clouds of chlorine and phosgene gas blew back from nearby trenches into French and Belgian villages. Both Central and Allied forces had been using gas for a year, and the sight of children wearing gas masks shook readers as much then as it shakes TV viewers today. While the first respirators distributed to civilians were crude, with timely warnings, they prevented casualties.

A Lift For Loggers

Skidding logs from forest to freight train was always an exercise in brute force, whether done by lumber gangs or elephants. To mechanize the operation, a lumberjack-turned-inventor patented an aerial tractor, featuring a trolley suspended from a 2-in.-thick cable. A 35-hp engine drove both a hoisting drum and grooved wheels that gripped the cable. Pacific Northwest loggers still use aerial cables to transport lumber, but their tractors stay on the ground.



Pop. Mech. May 1991

At first the loggers tried to fell the trees in the ^{Summer} Winter then skid them off the mountain in the snow to the Provo Canyon floor. They found that splintered the logs like tooth picks, so they devised a cable to bring them down one at a time.

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